

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein. As more fully set forth below, applicants are submitting a certified translation of the priority documents, establishing that the cited art is not "prior art." Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hirayama et al. (WO 2004/079800 wherein citations are from US 2006/0154188 equivalent document, hereinafter "Hirayama") in view of Hada et al. (WO 2004/108780 wherein citations are from US 2007/0065748 equivalent document, hereinafter "Hada"). This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 1-5 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ogata et al. (WO 2004/088428 wherein citations are from US 2006/0166130 equivalent document, hereinafter "Ogata") in view of Hada. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In order to overcome the rejection based on Hirayama in view of Hada and Ogata in view of Hada, an English translation of Japanese Priority Application (JP2003-409500) is submitted herewith, together with a certification attesting to the accuracy of the translation.

It is respectfully submitted that applicants are entitled to their priority date of Dec. 8, 2003, and thus the cited references are not prior art vis-à-vis applicants invention.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is

believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Applicants believe no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 08-0750, under Order No. 9084-000003/US/NP from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 16, 2008 Respectfully submitted,

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